

**GENERIC NAME: METHYLPREDNISOLONE SODIUM SUCCINATE**

112.18

**BRAND NAME:** Solu-Medrol

**CLASS:** corticosteroid, glucocorticoid, steroid, anti-inflammatory

Mechanism of Action:

Enters target cells and causes many complex reactions that are responsible for its anti-inflammatory and immunosuppressive effects; thought to stabilize cellular and intracellular membranes.

Indications and Field Use:

Reactive airway disease: Acute exacerbation of emphysema, chronic bronchitis, asthma  
Anaphylaxis

Burns potentially involving the airway

\*\* Acute spinal cord trauma (large loading and maintenance doses)

Contraindications:

Preterm infants

Adverse Reactions:

None from single dose

**NOTES ON ADMINISTRATION**

Incompatibilities/Drug Interactions:

None

Adult Dosage:

**Reactive Airway Disease, Anaphylaxis, Burns Potentially Involving the Airway**

Usual dose 125 mg slow IV bolus (much larger doses can be used).

\*\* **Acute Spinal Cord Trauma:** Should be within 6 hours of insult and patient meeting criteria, initial bolus dose of 30 mg/kg IV administered over 15 minutes; bolus followed by a 45 minute rest period, then a 23-hour continuous infusion of 5.4 mg/kg/hr. See: Special Notes.

Pediatric Dosage:

**Reactive Airway Disease, Anaphylaxis, Burns Potentially Involving the Airway**

2-4 mg/kg slow IV bolus

## GD-046-PHS-EMS: Drug Profile for Methylprednisolone Sodium Succinate

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### Routes of Administration:

IV bolus

### Onset of Action:

1 - 6 hours; dogmatic 6 hour time to onset of benefit has decreased markedly during the last few years

### Peak Effects:

8 hours

### Duration of Action:

18-36 hours

### Dosage Forms/Packaging:

125 mg/1 ml, 500 mg/4 ml, 1 Gm/8 ml mix-a-vial  
2 Gm vial with diluent

### Arizona Drug Box Supply Range:

**	PARAMEDIC:	1 - 2 125 mg/2 ml mix-a-vial Optional: additional training requirement for Spinal Cord Trauma (2 Gm x 1, 1 Gm x 1, 500 mg x 1, 125 mg x 1)
**	INTERMEDIATE:	1 - 2 125 mg/2 ml mix-a-vial Optional: additional training requirement for Spinal Cord Trauma (2 Gm x 1, 1 Gm x 1, 500 mg x 1, 125 mg x 1)

### Special Notes:

- > Use for spinal cord trauma is limited to prehospital providers that have completed a special training curriculum in accordance with their medical control authorities. *Proper administration of methylprednisolone for spinal cord trauma is imperative.*
- > Infusions: An infusion pump is required for continuous infusions of corticosteroids during interfacility transports; a minimum of microdrip tubing is required for field use if administering loading dose therapy for spinal cord trauma.

\*\* Indicates special training requirement